FISCAL NOTE

SB 1265 - HB 1476

<div align="right">March 9, 2001</div>

SUMMARY OF BILL:

- Provides procedures for a parent to voluntarily deliver an infant age 30 days or less to any safety officer or member of the professional medical community.

- Provides that a parent who complies with the provisions of the bill would not be subject to prosecution for contributing to the dependency of a minor (Class A misdemeanor) or criminal child abuse and neglect (Class D felony).

- Amends the definition of abandonment as used in termination of parental rights cases to incorporate a newborn infant under the criteria of this bill.

- Requires a TBI check for missing children.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant
Decrease State Expenditures - $9,300/Incarceration*
Decrease Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant

Assumes:
- one case per year will avoid prosecution for a Class D felony.

- the Department of Children's Services would take custody and provide foster care for the infant no mater what the circumstances of the abandonment.

- assumes any increase in state expenditures for the T.B.I. check for missing children would be not significant.

- local government impact depends upon the number of persons that will no longer be convicted of the Class A misdemeanor that would have been in the absence of this bill.

*Section 9-4-210, TCA, requires that: *For any law enacted after July 1, 1986, which results in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state facilities, there shall be appropriated from recurring revenues the estimated operating cost of such law. The amount appropriated for operating cost, in current dollars, shall be based upon the highest cost of the next 10 years, beginning with the year the additional sentence to be served impacts the correctional facilities population.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James A. Davenport

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James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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